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Note by the Secretary General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Akina Mama wa Afrika

(General; 1999)

Introduction

The aims and purposes of the organization

Akina Mama wa Afrika (AMwA) is an African women's international non-governmental development organization based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in Africa, which coordinates networking, information, advocacy and training forums for African women, and builds their leadership capacities to influence policy and decision making at all levels. AMwA's outreach is done through: addressing issues that affect women in the United Kingdom and Africa, building the leadership capacities of African women and their organizations; providing space for African women to share their perspectives; networking and consulting on local, regional and international levels; marketing the skills, expertise and creativity of African women and mobilising and empowering African women on the continent and in the Diaspora. In 1997 AMwA established the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI), as part of the organization's contribution to the post-Beijing process. The AWLI has since become the flagship programme and it has enabled the organization to focus on 'raising the bar' by equipping African women to participate in the areas of leadership and decision making, as well as empowering them to have a voice in key issues and areas that affect them. It is a regional networking, information and training forum, which, not only seeks to enable women, aged between 25 and 45, achieve personal empowerment, but also develops their critical thinking on gender issues, women's rights and human rights, advocacy and policy-influencing, organizational and resource development and strategic planning.

Significant changes in the organization and its work

In 2003 AMwA held a review of its then existing strategic plan (1998-2003). This process was largely informed by the outcomes of both internal and external reviews and evaluations of the organization's programmes. Therefore, whereas AMwA's vision remained steady, the period 2003-2006 saw AMwA embark on the process of change, which involved the relocation of its head office from the United Kingdom to Uganda and the repositioning of the office in the United Kingdom, which had an impact on the mission and goals of the organization.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Work of the Economic and Social Council, its Subsidiary Bodies and Other Major Conferences and United Nations Meetings

2004

AMwA attended the Regional Consultative Meeting on Women hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in July. The purpose was to plan for the NGO forum of the 7th Regional Conference on Women. AMwA was on the financial working group that drew up the fundraising strategy and budget for the NGO forum. AMwA was also on drafting committee for the report of the consultative meeting. In October representatives of AMwA attended the 7th African

Regional Conference on Women. This was the Africa regional preparatory process for the Beijing + 10 global review. At the conference, AMwA facilitated the young women's leadership forum. The dialogue was to access the leadership needs of young women and make concrete recommendations for the NGO declaration. AMwA, alongside other women's organizations and other activists, pushed for the following on the declaration: states were called upon to respect and protect women's autonomy, bodily integrity and right to choice; a standing conference that is autonomous from the regional intergovernmental processes to assess the challenges facing the African Women's Movement; the ratification and implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of Women in Africa by all Member States of the African Union. As the only African generated document setting out the framework for the interpretation and implementation of women's rights, and as one of the key post Beijing inputs by African governments, it is considerable importance.

2005

The 49th CSW undertook the global review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action (BDPA), 28th February -11th March 2005. AMwA pushed further with agenda for their region of reminding African governments on the continent of their commitment to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, as a Major step forward in implementing the BDPA. AMwA also worked to ensure that the needs identified in the preparatory processes at the Africa regional level were fully reflected in the deliberations.

Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and/or Specialized Agencies

In 2003 AMwA organized a joint workshop with UNIFEM on Transformational Leadership in Nigeria in recognition of the fact that the impact of the organization's flagship programme, the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI), should be aimed at not only transforming the lives of individual women, but also those of their communities.

Initiatives undertaken in Support of Internationally Agreed Goals

2003

AMwA worked very hard, along with other women's organizations, to ensure that the Draft Protocol to the African Charter for Human and People's Rights on the rights of Women in Africa was ready for approval at the Heads of State Meeting at the 2nd Assembly of the African Union (AU) in Maputo, 4-12 July 2003. AMwA collected views from civil society organizations on the original draft document. Along with other women's organizations, AMwA lobbied governments and campaigned successfully to reopen discussions on the Protocol at the African Union. AMwA participated in a meeting organized by Equality Now in Addis Ababa to consolidate the various regional and national responses to the original document. The technical assistance and lobby document fed into much more improved government positions on the draft protocol in preparation for the Expert's Meeting at the AU. The results of these efforts culminated in the adoption by the Expert's Meeting of a much strengthened Draft Protocol, which was finally adopted in March at the Meeting of Experts and adopted by Heads of State at the AU Heads of State

Summit in Maputo, 11 July 2003. Since then AMwA has focused on lobbying member states to ratify the protocol.

2004

AMwA, which is a member of a regional coalition of 14 organizations (Solidarity for African Women Coalition) working towards the ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter for Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, attended a steering committee meeting of the coalition in September 2004. At the NGO forum, hosted by the Eastern African sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women, AMwA was part of the drafting team for the final NGO declaration. AMwA, alongside other African women's organizations and activists, successfully advocated for the inclusion of Gender as a standing item on the agenda of the Ordinary Sessions of the Heads of States at the African Union. Thus, in July 2004, Heads of State made a commitment to report on their respective country's progress on addressing gender inequality. The Women, Gender and Development Directorate was tasked with formulating the reporting format. As part of this exercise, AMwA and other regional and national women's organizations were invited to input into drawing up an effective reporting and monitoring tool.

2005

AMwA joined over 40 other NGO's, the African Union Commission and African governments in Addis Ababa to discuss strategies for the domestication and implementation of the protocol in September. AMwA chaired a number of the sessions at the meeting.

In addition to these, AMwA continued to implement its flagship leadership training institutes (AWLI) for African women on the continent and in the United Kingdom. During this period 300 women were trained through regional, sub-regional and national AWLIs in the United Kingdom, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Sierra Leone.

2. Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas

(Special; 1999)

Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (ACNU), with sixty years of uninterrupted work promoting the aims and principles of the United Nations, is member of World Federation of the United Nations (WFUNA); belongs to WFUNA Executive Committee, it is affiliated to the Department of Public Information (DPI); at present it is preparing to renew its membership with the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). Our Association has the condition of Depository Library of United Nations Library "Dag Hammarskjold".

Our institutional life has followed an upward trend of its professional activity and has consolidated the links with a wider sector of the civil society. This has been a period of arduous and fruitful work, not only for the realization of the tasks programmed in the Plans approved in the General Assemblies of Associates but also for the achievement of a more precise definition and a closer approach to our work

lines, as well as a bigger cohesion in the work of the Commissions and the specialized groups for the attention to specific topics.

Our membership and its participation in all the activities was increased. We have tightened our bonds with similar Associations in the region and with the Executive Committee of the World Federation of the United Nations (WFUNA) since our incorporation to this Committee during the 37th Plenary Assembly held in Barcelona, Spain, in 2003.

Of great importance was the inauguration of our Website, a tool of unquestionable major significance to extend our presence with a more heterogeneous public, to broadcast our position and work in defence of the norms of International Law and the United Nations Charter.

The performance of the work groups for desertification, climate change and environment was commendable and redounded in the achievement of a better knowledge of the International Conventions subscribed by Cuba.

We highlight the labour of the Working Group constituted to evaluate the amendments proposed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the United Nations Management Reform, as well as the participation of our Association, on behalf of the 26 Cuban Non-Governmental Organizations, in the Hearing, summoned by the President of the General Assembly to analyse these amendments.

Year 2004 was proclaimed by United Nations "Year of commemoration of fight against slavery and its abolition", and our Association, and a work team of noted organizations of Cuban national culture, carried out an intense plan of activities in remembrance of the Bicentennial of the Haitian Revolution and the 150th anniversary of the birth of the renowned Cuban patriot Juan Gualberto Gómez.

International Seminars

- Development and a World Without Hunger: challenges of the XXI Century, 18-21 February 2003.
- The World in the XXI Century: challenges and hopes, 11-14 May 2004.
- World Population in the XXI Century: dilemmas and developments. (Cosponsored by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), among other institutions), 17-19 May 2006.

International activities

- Participation in 185th, 186th, 188th, 189th, 190th, and 191th Executive Committees. It was not possible to attend the 187th and 192th Executive Committees due to difficulties with the visa.
- Participation in the Civil Society General Assembly hearings that took place in New York, June 2005.
- Participation in Guatemala at the meeting for launching of Network of the Thematic Program on Agroforesteria of the Convention to Combat Desertification, 5 November 2004.
- Participation in the regional meeting of the (World Summit on the Information Society) WSIS at Rio de Janeiro, 6-11 June, 2005.

- Participation in the International Conference "Civil Society and Desertification", Montpellier, France. The organizers extended invitation to our Association, which was represented by the specialist in charge of this theme, 21-23 September 2006

Activities in observance of Special Days

- Constitution of a Commission to promote activities to observe the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, 18 April 2006.
- Act to commemorate the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, 26 June 2006
- Contest to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the United Nations, September 2004
- In commemoration of the 61st United Nations Anniversary, a conference "Cuba and the Organization of United Nations: 61 years of fruitful relationship", and panel integrated by Mr. Francisco Arias Millas, Representative of World Food Program in Cuba, Dr. Dagmar González, of Ministry for the Foreign Investment and the Collaboration, and other outstanding personalities, 19 October 2006
- Act at Memorial "José Martí" to commemorate United Nations Day, with the participation of the President of the Cuban Parliament, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and other outstanding personalities of the Cuban Government, representatives of United Nations Agencies accredited in Cuba, and the diplomatic body, 21 October 2004.
- Cultural finery at the National Theatre in occasion of the Year of the United Nations, with the participation of outstanding Cuban personalities and institutions of the artistic and cultural scope, 20 October 2004.

Other activities

- Annually we participate in the award-giving ceremonies of PMA EN ACCION (World Food Programme in Action), children plastic arts contest in connection with the World Food Programme in Cuba and Cuban culture halls. In these activities participated outstanding officials of the World Food Programme, and personalities of Cuban institutions.
- VIII, IX, X, and XI Models of the United Nations (HAVMUN 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006), activities that had an ample repercussion for their quality and that counted with the participation of professors and students from Mexican and Cuban Universities. Members of United Nations Association of Dominican Republic participated in HAVMUN 2005.
- Celebration in Havana of the Sixth Session of Conference of the Parties (COP6), particularly the Segment of NGOs participating in the works of the Convention, an event that demanded of us the accomplishment of important organizational efforts, 25 August-5 September 2003.
- Yearly encounters of the Cuban NGOs with the Diplomatic Body to inform about the work of these organizations. In these events participated NGOs and representatives of diplomatic missions accredited in Cuba.

- Receptions on occasion of the 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th and 60th anniversaries of ACNU, with participation of representatives of United Nations Agencies accredited in Cuba, members of diplomatic corps, and Cuban outstanding personalities of the cultural, artistic, and press scope.

- Mrs. Susan McDade, new representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Cuba joined ACNU. This encounter allowed us to strengthen the relationship with the United Nations Program for the Development in our country, 21 November 2006.

- Press conference of Mrs. Mirtha Kaulard and Francisco Arias Millas, Representatives in Cuba of United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), respectively, to inform about the programs and projects of collaboration of these and other agencies members of the commission to commemorate the World Food Day, 13 October 2005 .

- Our Documentation Centre edited an Annual Bibliographic Bulletin dedicated to the 60th Anniversary of United Nations, and maintains a fluid exchange with the Centre of Information of United Nations for Mexico, Cuba, and Dominican Republic (CINU).

This is only brief summary information, of some of the numerous activities carried out by ACNU since the last quadrennial report.

3. Human Rights Defence Centre

(Special; 2003)

Part I. Introduction

The Human Rights Defence Centre (KEPAD) was established in 1998, with its seat in Athens. According to its Statute, the organization aims at promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in Greece, the Balkans, the Mediterranean and other regions. Its main course of action includes provision of practical knowledge on human rights, raising awareness, training and mobilization for the improvement of the situation of human rights, as well as assistance and protection to persons belonging to vulnerable social groups, including trafficking victims. The amount of funding received has increased through donations of works of art by artists and exhibitions organized for the support of the organization's work. The annual sale of donated artwork since 2003 has been an important source of funding.

Expanded Areas of Activities: While the broad aims and objectives of the organization and its activities remain much as described in the submission of 15 May 2002, KEPAD has expanded their range in countries of Southeast and Eastern Europe. It has strengthened significantly its cooperation with other NGOs in that region and its scope of operations has grown from national to regional/international, in particular with the establishment of the *ARIADNE Network against Human Trafficking in Southeast and Eastern Europe*, on the initiative of KEPAD.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its Subsidiary Bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

KEPAD organized a ***parallel NGO meeting/side event*** in the framework of the 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) on the topic *Regional Cooperation for Countering Trafficking in Women and Girls* (New York, 2 March 2006), in cooperation with the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations and the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The importance of regional cooperation was discussed and proposals were made in the context of the work of *ARIADNE Network*. Statements were delivered by the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the president of KEPAD, the Chief of the mission in Greece office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the vice-president of the NGO *International Women's Centre La Strada-Ukraine*. A member of KEPAD also participated in the 50th Session of the CSW (New York, 27 February-10 March 2006).

ii) Initiatives of organization undertaken in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, Millennium Development Goals

Along with 21 other Greek NGOs, KEPAD participated in the event *UN Millennium Goals and the Civil Society* resulting in the drafting of the *Declaration regarding the mid-term review of the eight Millennium Development Goals* (Athens, 7 June 2005), which was circulated among members of the Economic and Social Commission and submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General in June 2005 (E/2005/NGO/28).

iii) Activities in Support of Global Principles

International Human Rights Day was observed in 2003 by KEPAD with an event entitled *Celebration of International Human Rights Day* organized under the auspices of the Municipality of Athens, in which a painting, specially created for human rights by a famous Greek painter, was presented and donated for the support of the organization's work. Speakers included scholars, academics and NGO representatives; there was an impressive turnout of people.

The *Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme*, organized by KEPAD since 2000, continues to take place. Organized with the cooperation of the Council of Europe and other international and regional organizations, it aims at providing practical knowledge on human rights and at developing regional cooperation for joint action with other NGOs in the Balkan region. This annual event addresses young people such as university students, NGO representatives, journalists and young professionals.

The *4th Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme* was held on the topic of *Migrants and Refugees* (Nafplion, Greece, 1-8 September 2003) with 35 young people participating from the Balkan region. Speakers included representatives from the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and IOM. The proceedings of the programme were published in a book of 289 pages *Olympia IV: Human Rights in the 21st Century: Migrants and Refugees* (Ant. Sakkoulas Publishers, 2004).

The *5th Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme* focused on *Trafficking in Human Beings in SE and E. Europe* (Athens, 22-25 October 2004) and took the form of a workshop-roundtable. The aim was to examine the situation of human trafficking in the region and discuss the proposal of KEPAD to establish a regional network against human trafficking at NGO level. The meeting was attended by experts of 18 NGOs from 12 countries of the region, representatives of IOM and the UNHCR and observers from foreign embassies and Greek ministries. It concluded that a regional NGO network should be established for joint action against human trafficking in the region.

The *6th Annual Olympia Human Rights Programme* was a follow-up to the 5th Programme, on *Regional Network against Human Trafficking* (Athens, 7-9 June 2005) with the participation of 18 NGOs from 12 countries and observers from Greek ministries and foreign Embassies. The workshop marked the official establishment of the *ARIADNE Network against Human Trafficking in SE and E. Europe*, by the adoption of its Statute and the creation of its website (www.ariadnet.net). The mission of the network is to develop close and coordinated cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination, initiate tripartite cooperation among NGOs, state agents and international organizations and unite forces for combating the phenomenon in the region. The members of the ARIADNE Network are 17 NGOs from 12 countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Kosovo (Serbia), Turkey and Ukraine). KEPAD was designated as Network Coordinator.

After the official establishment of the *ARIADNE Network*, the members implemented their first joint project *Registration of the Actual Situation of Human Trafficking* in all the member/countries. National reports were drafted on the basis of comprehensive research conducted by experts from the NGO/members, with the cooperation of state agents, international organizations and other NGOs and included information on the legal framework, gaps, deficiencies and problems in combating the phenomenon, as well as best practices, needs assessments and recommendations for the improvement of the situation. Two workshops were held in support of the implementation of this project (Thessaloniki, Greece, 14-16 June 2006 and Tirana, 22-24 November 2006) with the participation of network members to evaluate the progress of the project and discuss cooperation issues. The project resulted in 14 publications: one in English *Combating Human Trafficking: Problems and Prospects* (272 pages - Ant. N. Sakkoulas Publishers, Athens 2007) and 13 publications (250-300 pages each) in the local languages of the members (12 countries plus Kosovo). The second joint project of the ARIADNE Network, currently underway, was launched in 2006 at the Tirana Workshop in November 2006 and aims at following up on the registration of the situation (publications), by adopting an *integrated plan of action* and by launching new joint projects on priorities identified by the partners of the Network.

KEPAD is one of the founding members of the ASPIDDA (Developmental Partnership to Promote Equal Rights for Trafficked Persons) Project, established in June 2005 in Athens, which was formed in the framework of the European Community Initiative entitled *EQUAL*, aiming at combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination in the labour market. KEPAD, together with another 12 Greek NGOs participates actively in the Action Plan entitled *ILAEIRA*, a national and international cross border operational and inter-service plan launched in 2006 and

implemented by the Greek Police, the European Union and 22 countries from Europe against human trafficking with the aim of developing and coordinating simultaneous actions in all participating countries.

KEPAD participates regularly in the Special Greek Inter-Ministerial Committee against human trafficking, responsible for the implementation of the *National Plan of Action* (Law 3064/2002); the Secretary-Generals of eight competent ministries and representatives of 18 NGOs participate in these meetings. KEPAD organized a conference entitled *International Criminal Court* in cooperation with Amnesty International and the Athens Bar Association (Athens, 6 May 2004). Speakers included academics and scholars from the University of Athens.

The Secretary-General of KEPAD participated in a roundtable, organized by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (Athens, 18 November 2004). ECRI's report on Greece was discussed by experts on racism and xenophobia with the aim of improving the situation in Greece in this field.

In 2004 KEPAD was nominated by the Hellenic National Commission for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a candidate for the 2004 *UNESCO Prize for Human Rights Education*.

4. Japan Fellowship of Reconciliation

(Special; 1999)

PART 1. Introduction

i. The aims and purposes of the organization

Japan Fellowship of Reconciliation (JFOR) Nihon Yuwa-kai aims at realizing peace in the world through non-violent methods. JFOR sponsors discussion meetings on peace-keeping topics and holds monthly peace-making lectures in various cities in Japan. In addition, JFOR holds annual assembly meetings in various parts of the country and sends delegates to conferences held by other bodies. JFOR cooperates with the National Christian Council in Japan (NCC) and others and works towards peace through various non-violent actions.

ii. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization

The constitution originally submitted to the United Nations stated that JFOR would limit its formal membership qualification to Christians and only grant non-Christians a status as a friend of the Association. At the 2005 General Assembly Meeting, it was amended to allow non-Christians full membership. In accordance with this amended provision, there shall no longer be any distinction between Christians and non-Christians as members.

PART II. Contributions made by the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

1. Contributions as regards the issue of wartime military sexual slavery

JFOR sent representatives headed by its main Geneva representative to the United Nations Prof. Etsuro Totsuka, to the United Nations human rights meetings, such as the 55th and 58th Sessions of the Sub-Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (28 July-15 August 2003; 26 July-13 August 2004, 25 July-12 August 2005 and 7-25 August 2006).

One of the major contributions of JFOR to the Sub-Commission was the submission of new information concerning wartime military sexual slavery by Japan, so-called "comfort women". JFOR, in cooperation with other concerned NGOs, made oral interventions and submitted written statements (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/NGO/46; E/CN.4/Sub.2/2004/NGO/28; and E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/NGO/35) to the Sub-Commission, which has been responding to JFOR's recommendations by adopting resolutions on "Systematic Rape, Sexual Slavery and Slavery-like Practices".

JFOR is happy to add that young Japanese women contributed to the Sub-Commission. For example, in 2004, Ms. Yuriko Yabu, a student of Ryukoku University, representing JFOR, made an oral intervention in regards to the Administration of Justice on 11 August 2004. In it, she pointed out that insufficient reflection of war responsibilities by many large Japanese organizations resulted in continuation of the prewar attitude possessed by the Japanese leading politicians (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2004/SR.21, paragraphs 88-90).

2. Contributions as regards the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

JFOR has been working hard and lobbied at the United Nations with the view that achieving Japan's ratification of the First Optional Protocol to the ICCPR would much improve the human rights situation in Japan.

At the occasions of the Sub-Commission meetings in 2003 and 2004, JFOR cooperated with the several lawyers from the Osaka Bar Association, who represented the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA) and visited with them the responsible human rights officers of the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). JFOR and JFBA submitted the OHCHR the information as regards the human rights situation, in particular administration of Justice and regretted that the Supreme Court of Japan had been inactive in implementation of international human rights law such as the ICCPR and that both NGOs strongly recommended the OHCHR to advise the Japanese Government to ratify the First Optional Protocol of the ICCPR as a matter of priority.

In 2004, there was a remarkable breakthrough for JFOR's lobbying that had continued for five years. JFOR's main Geneva representative to the United Nations, Professor Etsuro Totsuka, succeeded in securing an opportunity to personally meet with Ms. Louis Arbour, the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the 2 August 2004. At that occasion, he was representing Mr. Tsutomu Hata, Japan's former Prime Minister, Member of the House of Representatives, the President of the

Japanese Diet Members' Association for Cooperation with the Human Rights Activities of the United Nations and wished to submit Ms. Arbour a letter from Mr. Hata, in which he invited her to Japan. Exploiting this opportunity, Prof. Totsuka took several JFBA representatives to her office upon her permission. Thus, both NGOs finally succeeded in personally meeting with the High Commissioner herself and were able to submit the information concerning the situation of domestic implementation on the ICCPR in Japan.

This successful lobbying resulted in Ms. Arbour's formal visit to Japan from 7 to 11 November 2004.

3. Contribution towards childcare services for the Geneva United Nations Office

On the basis of the advice from Prof. Totsuka, Ms. Yoshiko Burke, President of Mikage International preschool in Kobe, and a few students from Ryukoku University representing JFOR, worked at lobbying for the creation of childcare services for the Geneva United Nations Office, when they joined the sub-Commission meetings in 2004, 2005 and 2006. In order to support these activities, the Women Committee of JFOR organized the fundraising campaigns to cover substantial parts of the travel expenses of those who participated in the Sub-Commission meetings.

In 2004, Ms. Akiko Kuwabara, a Ryukoku University student and Ms. Burke made a research by interviewing many participants at the Geneva United Nations Offices during the Sub-Commission session as regards the need for the childcare for the Geneva United Nations Office. In 2005, the result of her research was published in her paper in Japanese (Hogaku-Ronsyu: Gakusei-Ronsyu, published by Ryukoku University, Vol. 34, March 2005, pp. 599-613) and reported to the Sub-Commission by Ms. Burke. Ms. Burke made oral interventions representing JFOR at the Sub-Commission meetings on 8 August 2005 and 16 August 2006 and urged the United Nations and the concerned governments to consider the creation of childcare services at the Geneva Office citing the research result made by Ms. Kwabara. This drew much attention to the participants and was published by many local newspapers in Japan.

4. Contribution for other matters including the reform of the United Nations

In 2003, JFOR submitted a written statement on "Arbitrary Detention and other Situations surrounding Asylum Seekers in Japan" (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/NGO/45) drafted by the late Mr. Toshio Kaneko, a lecturer of Kobe Gakuin University. Ms. Yuki Nakai, a student of Ryukoku University, representing JFOR, made an oral intervention as regards Prevention of Discrimination on 12 August 2003. In it, she urged the Japanese Government to discharge two detainees in an Alien Detention Center, Mr. YANAGI Takeo and Mr. LI Pon, students of universities in Japan (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/SR.19, paragraphs 20-21). JFOR is happy to report that both of them were consequently discharged.

JFOR, as regards the reform of the United Nations Human Rights system, submitted some proposals, Prof. Totsuka made an oral intervention at the last Sub-Commission on the future role of experts on 11 August 2006.

5. Participation in the other United Nations meetings

Some women members of JFOR participated in the 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, 3-14 March 2003, 47th Session 1-12 March 2004, 28 February-11 March 2005 and 27 February-10 March 2006.

5. Ukrainian World Congress

(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

i. The aims and purposes of the organization are to establish and maintain an international network of member organizations who have an interest in supporting and promoting Ukrainian nationality, spirit, language, culture and achievements of Ukrainians throughout the world, to coordinate the activities of member organizations, to promote the civic development of Ukrainians in countries of their settlement for the purpose of strengthening their commitment towards democracy and freedom for all nations in the world, to uphold the rights of every Ukrainian person based on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and to intervene with governments and/or non-governmental institutions to protect the rights of Ukrainians throughout the world.

Its main course of action is to provide avenues of communication for some 20 million ethnic Ukrainians who reside outside Ukraine. Officers of the UWC regularly visit various communities from North and South America, Europe, to the far reaches of the Russian Federation and Australia. The organization organizes conferences on scholarly and educational topics, human and civil rights issues, democracy and state building. Additionally, the organization attempts to provide social services, medical and humanitarian aid to Ukrainian and sometimes non-Ukrainian communities throughout the world, including Ukraine, to coordinate activities of youth and educational Ukrainian institutions and works with the International Olympic Committee as well as the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine in arranging services for athletic training, etc.

ii. While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities, remain much as described in the submission of 30 May 2001, the UWC has expanded their range into Africa, specifically, Mozambique.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In April 2003, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) was formally accepted in consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Since that time to date, the UWC has designated and functioned through the maximum allowable representatives to the United Nations office in New York and one or two representatives to the office in Vienna.

On 26 April 2003, and each year thereafter, the UWC's United Nations representatives have assisted the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations in organizing a Chernobyl anniversary related bazaar at the United Nations, the proceeds of which are used to help the Chernobyl victims.

On 19 September 2003, the UWC United Nations representatives met with Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and his assistants to discuss issues of mutual concern, in particular, the upcoming commemoration of Ukraine's Great Famine 1932-33 at the United Nations and to develop lines of communication for the long term. The following specific areas of activity at the United Nations in particular, through the Economic and Social Council and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) were addressed: migrant workers, slave trafficking, Chernobyl, AIDS and assistance to orphanages.

On 10 November 2003, in connection with the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine 1932-33, the UWC together with another Ukrainian ethnic NGO at the United Nations, the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations extended compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations with reference to agenda item 179b of the Third Committee of the 59th session of the United Nations General Assembly, submitted and disseminated a Statement at the United Nations offices in New York on the Great Famine 1932-33. The Statement read in part as follows:

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the enforced famine of 1932-33, engineered by the Soviet regime in which 7-10 million Ukrainians perished. The sheer numbers alone would qualify this entry as the world's most massive genocide. We honour the millions of victims of this most heinous mass crime ever committed by man against man. Historians conclude that no nation lost more than the Ukrainian during the XX century. Together the famines, purges, persecutions and wars resulted in over twenty million lives lost...

On April 14, 2000 at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council on the situation concerning Rwanda, Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations stated: "For Ukraine genocide is not just a term. We experienced difficult times in our own history; this century alone witnessed an unspeakable tragedy, when more than 7 million people were exterminated within two years by a well-planned famine. These events took place in a country once called the breadbasket of Europe."

On September 24, 2003 at the general debate of the 58th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ukraine's President urged: "70 years ago the totalitarian Soviet regime engineered an artificial famine in Ukraine, which claimed the lives of 7 to 10 million of our compatriots. Unfortunately, back in 1933 the world did not respond to our tragedy. The international community believed the cynical propaganda of the Soviet Union, which was selling bread abroad while in Ukraine the hunger was killing 17 people a-minute. From this podium, I would like to call upon all of you to pay tribute to the memory of those who perished."

This year the parliament of Ukraine adopted a statement on the 70th anniversary of the Famine honouring the victims and identifying that heinous act as genocide. The legislatures of Argentina, Australia, Canada and the United States of America passed similar resolutions. Others are pending.

Therefore, based on the foregoing, we call upon the governments of the world community of nations and UN non-governmental organizations to recognize the 1932-33 famine in Ukraine as genocide against the Ukrainian people and to remember the 7-10 million innocents who perished.

On 5 March 2004, the UWC issued and disseminated a Statement on global human trafficking to the Forty-eighth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 1-12 March 2004. The UWC made the following findings:

- Ukrainian women are the largest group trafficked in Turkey;

- Ukrainian women are the second largest group outside United States military bases in the Republic of Korea;

- Women from CIS countries comprise 70 per cent of trafficking in Israel;

- Ukrainian women constitute the largest foreign group trafficked in the Netherlands;

- 70 percent of Ukrainian women in Poland were trafficked;

- Women from Central, East Europe and CIS countries constitute 80 percent of trafficking in Germany. Other large markets for the slave trade in Ukrainians include: Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain, Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, United Arab Emirates, Syrian Arab Republic, China, Canada and Japan.

The UWC made the following recommendations to the countries of the United Nations:

- Marshal the political will to combat trafficking;

- Undertake prevention and awareness campaigns;

- Encourage and support the activities of non-governmental organizations;

- Promulgate national legislation to punish traffickers and their facilitators;

- Prioritize law enforcement efforts to arrest and convict traffickers;

- Provide humanitarian services to victims and assist in their reintegration into society;

- Ratify and implement the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish the Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children;

- Develop international, regional and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination;

- Accord special focus on the new front for traffickers in Central and East Europe.

In July 2004, the UWC President travelled to Vienna where he met with representatives of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to International Organizations in Vienna, representatives from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and the Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

On 8-10 September 2004, UWC United Nations representatives participated in the 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action.

On 18 January 2005, the UWC President met with the deputy administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Kalman Mizsei. UWC United Nations

representatives studied the Blue Ribbon Commission report for Ukraine and complements were forwarded to Mr. Mizsei on 14 February 2005.

In January 2006, a UWC United Nations representative participated in a meeting at the United Nations in New York on the issue of slave trafficking in New York.

In March 2006 that UWC United Nations representative travelled to Ukraine where she met with representatives from the Centre for Ukrainian Education Reform, which deals with the issue of slave trafficking. She also met with representatives of the local IOM office in Ukraine to whom she delivered a copy of The Natashas, a book on slave trafficking written by Canadian journalist Victor Malarek, which was translated into Ukrainian for dissemination and funded in part by the UWC. Additionally, she travelled throughout Ukraine, meeting with several local organizations dealing with this issue.

In March 2006, the UWC President travelled to Rome, Venice and Naples, Italy meeting with large communities of Ukrainian migrants to discuss migration and slave trafficking issues. In Venice the UWC President met with IOM local representatives to discuss these issues as well.

On 28 April 2006, UWC United Nations representatives participated in a session of the United Nations General Assembly dedicated to the 20th anniversary of Chernobyl.